

Elections

Department: Community Services **Program Contact:** Tim Scott
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted
Related Programs: 91010A
Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

In anticipation of unprecedented interest in and turnout for the 2020 presidential election cycle, this program offer will provide temporary staffing and overtime funds to develop administrative support for running an efficient and timely election. These funds will also provide Elections with the flexibility to build capacity among existing staff and temporary on-call staff to prepare for the presidential election cycle and beyond.

Program Summary

The presidential primary and general election are our largest elections of the 4-year cycle. Voter registration, customer service demand and ballot turnout increase with high turnout elections. Currently, the Elections Division runs all elections with 12 FTE and obtains additional capacity with temporary staff. This program offer restores program capacity and reduces strain placed on full time staff to efficiently run elections to meet ballot counting timelines. Restoration of funds would also provide the Elections Division with the flexibility to maintain capacity among existing staff and temporary on-call staff to prepare for the 2020 presidential election cycle. Maximizing capacity and efficiency is necessary to meet the demands associated with Multnomah County's increasing population, the increasing number of registered voters and the high turnout rates seen in recent elections.

Additional temporary staff will:

- Provide Think Yes customer service at our main office, phone bank and Voting Center Express.
- Support voter education and outreach services.
- Assist voters with disabilities.
- Issue replacement and provisional ballots.
- Assist with critical functions like our high speed sorters, ballot tally room and opening boards.
- Assist in election processes from ballot printing and mailing to ballot scanning and adjudication.
- Improve the voter experience and reduce wait time for services.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY18 Actual	FY19 Purchased	FY19 Estimate	FY20 Offer
Output	Number of election planning meetings attended by temporary staff	N/A	N/A	N/A	8
Outcome	Average number of days the Voting Center Express is open to the public	N/A	N/A	13	15.5

Performance Measures Descriptions

Number of election planning meetings attended by temporary staff captures the need to develop effective, well-trained temporary staff to support the 2020 election cycle. Average number of days the Voting Center Express is open to the public captures a key service that will be expanded through this program offer.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

Multnomah County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 5, Elections, describes the process for county initiative/referendum petitions and how to fill vacancies in county elective offices. Multnomah County Administrative Rules, Multnomah County Language and Effective Communication Policy, Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 165, addresses state-wide uniformity in the conduct of elections by county. Rules deal with issues such as county voters' pamphlets and voting by mail. Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapters 246 through 260, provide the legal authority for all aspects of conducting elections in Oregon. Federal mandates (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, The Voting Rights Act, The National Voter Registration Act, The Help America Vote Act and the Military and Overseas Empowerment Act) establish election administration standards.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2019	2019	2020	2020
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$45,226	\$0
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$60,024	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$105,250	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$105,250	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

There are no revenues associated with this program.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was:

This program offer will restore reductions made in the Elections main program offer, 91010A. The number of registered voters in Multnomah County is growing significantly, with more than 100,000 new voters added since 2015. At the same time, turnout is setting records in high-interest elections like the November 2016 and 2018 elections. Turnout in the upcoming 2020 presidential primary and general elections is likely to be high. Well trained on-call election workers are critical to support the increasing needs of voters in these large elections. This program offer will restore capacity for key election services, such as funding on-call staff to support additional days of service at the Voting Center Express, which will address the increasing demand for this popular vote center.